

The Purpose of Humanity

March 14, 2021

The Point: God created us to serve and honor Him.

Passages: Genesis 1:1-5, 26-31

The Setting: The word Genesis means “beginnings” and rightly so that it is the title of the Bible’s first book.

Genesis 1:1-5

God created **everything**. God is eternal and has always existed. These verses bring forth the beginning of the universe, God’s creation. God created the heavens and the earth, nothing is excluded.

Moses wrote Genesis as a history for the people of Israel during their years of wilderness wandering. These opening verses remind readers of God’s power and creativity as He brought the world into being. As humans our story starts with God. The presence of the living Spirit of God was hovering over the lifeless void. The entire Trinity had a hand in the work of creation. The Word (Jesus) was with God in the beginning (John 1:1-3). Not a single thing that has been created was created apart from Jesus (Col. 1:15-17).

God invites us to have a relationship with Him. Through Jesus, we have access to the Father, the Creator of the universe.

Lasting Truths from these Verses:

1. God created the universe out of nothing.
2. God’s creation involves all three persons of the Trinity—Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
3. God began His creation by speaking it into existence.

Genesis 1:26-27

To be made “in the image of God” means we were made with something the rest of creation doesn’t have. Our ability to think, reason and process morality is different. We have the capacity to adapt and tame the land around us, no matter what that land looks like.

We were created to be God’s representatives. He made humanity with the unique responsibility of being His representatives on earth. As His image bearers, we were created to rule over the animals and over the earth. The Hebrew word translated rule means “to subjugate, to have dominion, or to reign.” Humans made in God’s image are capable of thinking, discerning and making choices as God’s ruling representatives of governing the earth in His place. Humans were created for a relationship, specifically a relationship with God.

Lasting Truths from these Verses:

1. God created humanity in His own image.
2. Being in God's image means we display intellect, emotion, volition, and dominion.
3. Both men and women bear God's image.

Genesis 1: 28-31

God gave humanity a blessing. He gave us a command. He would hold them accountable to complete the assignments. Be fruitful and fill the earth (this relates to procreation) and to spread out across the earth so they could oversee and protect the earth. Human beings have authority over the created order. We are called to be stewards of creation. We can only accomplish this by serving God and honoring Him through our personal relationship with Him.

Lasting Truths from these Verses:

1. God commanded us to fill the earth and subdue it.
2. When God finished His creation, it was very good.
3. God is pleased when we steward His creation well.

Prayer

Heavenly Father help us to be good stewards of all your creation that you have entrusted to us.

May your Holy Spirit help and guide us to accomplish these tasks.

In Jesus name I pray.

AMEN